Secrt. II-27—30,006—26-11-31.

Development (1932) Department.

M.S. SERIES.

G.O. No. 363

363

DATED 11-3-1932

[Despatch Abstract.]

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
Ms.	2044	Rev.	3-12-28.				
"	38	"	7-1-29.				
"	1015	P.H.	15-4-29.				
"	2828	"	16-11-29.				
"	1561	Rev.	27-6-31				
"	1583	"	"				
"	1658	"	4-11-31.				

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

starred question Council Office

5-1 -31

Mr. . . B. Shetty

THE DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

688 Will the h n. the Law Member be leased to state

(a) whether the representations made to him regarding forest grievances during his last visit to South Kanara have been considered by the Government;

(b) what action, if any, Government propose to take in regard to each of the matters dealt with in the representations made by the District Advancement Association and the people at Byndoor and at Coregaum?

.R.S.

Starred question.

Dev. Dept.

Mr. A. B. Shetty.

688. Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state

(a) whether the representations made to him regarding forest grievances during his last visit to South Kanara have been considered by the Govt.;

(b) what action, if any, Govt. propose to take in regard to each of the matters dealt with in the representations made by the Ud. Advancement Association and the people at Byndoor and at Someshwar?

Draft answer.

(a) Yes.

(b) Copies of the orders passed by Govt. on the representations received are appended

RR
28/11/31

Appendix.

List of Govt. Nos.

H 17-19 of (I) 1561 dt. 27-10-1931

H 64-69 of (T) 1563 " 27-10-1931

H 10-14 of (J) and 1688 " 24-11-1931.

(The above answer has been approved by the Hon'ble Minister)

27/11

27.11.31

J.D.

Please speak with Secretary to the Govt. in charge

24/12/31

3

63

Legislative Council Question No.688 - Starred.

Mr. A.B. Shetty.

Will the Hon'ble the Law Member be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the representations made to him regarding forest grievances during his last visit to South Kanara have been considered by the Government;

(b) what action, if any, Government propose to take in regard to each of the matters dealt with in the representations made by the District Advancement Association and the people at Byndoor and at Someshwar ?

Development Department

A N S W E R.

(a) Yes.

(b) Copies of the orders passed by Government on these representations received are appended.

Fort St.George,
Dated the 28th November 1931.

S.V. Ramamurti,
Secretary to Government

To

The Legislative Council Office.

The above answer has been approved by the Hon'ble Diwan Bahadur Sir T.Krishnan Nair, Kt.

F O R W A R D E D
/By Order/

D. Rajamani 2.12.31
Superintendent

Appendix:-

Enclosure(1)

Government of Madras

Received.....1931 . Registered.....1931

Abstract.

Forests

Grievances - South Kanara - Karkul taluk - Memorandum from the ryots - Orders passed.

G.O.No. 1561 MS. Development Department. dated 27th October 1931.

Read:-

From the Ryots in the vicinity of reserved forests in Karkul taluk.

O R D E R : --

The Government have carefully considered the several requests of the memorialists and are pleased to pass the following orders : --

(1) Abolition of grazing fees.

The Government are unable to comply with this request of the memorialists.

(2) Removal of forest boundaries to a distance of at least half a mile.

The Government are unable to accept that proximity of reserves to cultivated fields within half a mile, as such, should justify disafforestation. But if specific instances are brought to notice and it can be shown prima facie that proximity causes hardship, enquiries will be instituted and redress given wherever necessary.

(3) Exemption from payment of charge for water.

Free use of water from reserved forests is granted in all cases in which such a right has been admitted at forest settlement in the other cases, the use or diversion of water from forest streams for irrigation is permissible under a license to be issued by the Collector. The license provides for the payment of water cess at the rates prescribed by the rules framed under the Madras Irrigation Cess Act. If the request of the memorialists is for the abolition of this cess, it cannot be granted. If, however, any charge not in accordance with these orders has been imposed for the use of water from reserved forests, the fact may be brought to the notice of the Collector who is the only authority authorised to issue license for diversion of water from reserved forests, and who will examine the cases where petitions have been received [illegible] with

view to the issue of fresh license.

(4) Oppression by forest subordinates.

The Government understand that the alleged practice does not exist.

(5) Hunting in reserved forests with the permission of local forest officers.

The concession asked for cannot be granted.

(6) The grant of gun licences.

The petitioners are informed that licences will be granted by the District Magistrate in deserving cases at his discretion.

(By order of the Governor in Council)

S.V.Ramamurti

Secretary to Government.

To the Chief Conservator (with copy of the memorial).
To the Ryots of Karkal taluk (through the Chief Conservator)
To the Revenue Department.
To the Public Department.

****

Enclosure(ii) 6

Government of Madras.

Received.....1931. Registered.....1931.

Abstract.

FORESTS

Grievances - South Kanara District - Coondapur taluk Memorial from the ryots of Yeathu, Kadwari, Bynoor and other villages - Orders passed.

G.O.No. 1563 MS. Development Department. dated 27th October 1931.

Read:-

Memorial from the ryots of certain villages in Coondapur taluk, No nil, dated 16th February 1931.
Memorandum to the Chief Conservator, No. 5351/31-1, dated 28th Feb. '31 from the Chief Conservator of Forests, Ref.No. 2072 C-1/31, dated 1st August 1931.
Memorandum to the Chief Conservator of Forests, No. 575,1 /31-2, dated 21st August 1931.
from the Chief Conservator of Forests, Ref.No. 7717/31/C-1, dated 12th September 1931.

O R D E R : --

The Government have carefully considered the several requests of the memorialists and are pleased to pass the following orders : --

1. Removal of the boundaries of Forest Reserves to a distance of at least one mile from human habitations and fields. - Government are unable to accept that proximity of reserves to human habitations and cultivated fields within one mile, as such, should justify disafforestation. But if specific instances are brought to notice and it can be shown prima facie that proximity of any particular reserve causes hardship, enquiries will be instituted and redress given where necessary.

2. Permission for periodical hunt of wild beasts in reserve ~~XX~~ K in order to minimise the ~~ravages~~ ravages of wild animals on cattle and crops. - At present the people are allowed to hunt certain species of wild animals during July to January, subject to the condition that the previous permission of the Collector or the Revenue Divisional Officer is obtained and that an officer of the Forest department is present at the time of the hunt. The Government do not consider that any further concession is necessary.

3. Removal of clearing forests for a radius of half a mile from each village with a view to preventing malaria. The

The Government have already accorded general permission to the owners of all houses within one furlong from the boundaries of reserved forests to cut and remove forest growth within a radius of one furlong from their houses. No further concession can be granted.

4. Abolition of grazing fees, coupe contracts and permission to graze cattle in reserves and coupes : - The Government are unable to comply with these requests of the memorialists.

5. Permission to utilise freely all forest products such as green leaves, grass and small timber required for such various operations, as cultivation, raising of cattle, building of house etc.: - The Government consider that the concessions already granted are sufficient to meet the legitimate demands of the people. No further concessions can be granted.

6. Permission for 'Kumris' to clear the undergrowth, and raise such crops as ragi, tow and vegetables, as before, in the 'Kumris' on the lower zone of the Western Ghats: -The Government do not see any justification for granting this request of the memorialists.

7. Abolition of the charge for water taken from the reserves for purposes of cultivation : - Free use of water from reserved forests is allowed in all cases in which such a right has been admitted at forest settlement. In all other cases, the use or diversion of water from reserved forests for irrigation is permissible under a licence to be issued by the Collector. This licence provides for the payment of water cess at the rates prescribed by the rules framed under the Madras Irrigation Cess Act, on the extent irrigated. The request of the memorialists that this water charge should be abolished cannot be complied with.

The memorialists state that at the time of settlement the lands irrigated with water from reserved forests were classified as 'wet' and assessed as such and that later, the Forest Department have levied a charge for water on the same lands ignoring the fact that they have already been classified as wet lands and assessed as such. The Government are not aware of any cases in which such "double charges" have been levied. As however in future licences for the diversion of water from reserved forests are to be issued only by the Collector, in all cases in which licences have been issued by the District

Forest Officers in the past and issue fresh licences if necessary, each case being considered on its merits. If any case of double charge come to the notice of the Collector, he will no doubt cancel the existing permit and issue a licence for diversion of water free of any extra charge.

7. Reorganization of the existing Forest Panchayats.

The question is under the consideration of the Government.

(By order of the Governor in Council)

S.V.Ramamurti

Secretary to Government.

To the Chief Conservator of Forests.

To the memorialists through the Chief Conservator.

To the Revenue Department.

Enclosure (II)

Government of Madras

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Abstract

FORESTS - Grievances - South Kanara District - Representations from the District Advancement Association - Orders passed.

Development Department
G.O.No.1688 Ms., dated 24th November 1931.

***

Read the following:--

From the Secretary, District Advancement Association, dated the 18th February 1931.

O R D E R:--

In February 1931, the members of the District Advancement Association, South Kanara, submitted a memorandum setting forth the grievances of the agriculturists of the district in regard to the administration of the forests in the district. The memorandum concluded with a request for the formation of a committee of officials and non-officials to enquire into the alleged grievances. In his letter dated 18th February 1931, forwarding the memorandum, the Honorary Secretary of the Association drew attention to certain specific grievances. The grievances referred to in the memorandum are ~~x~~ all of a general nature and most of them recently came under the consideration of Government in connection with a detailed memorandum of forest grievances received from Mr. Karant. The orders of Government on the several points raised in Mr. Karant's memorandum are explained in the appended reference which has been sent by the Chief Conservator to Mr Karant. In view of the detailed enquiry so recently made, the Government do not consider it necessary to appoint any committee as suggested in the memorandum of the Association. They have however again considered the

specific

Development of Forests

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Abstract

FORESTS - Grievances - South Kanara District - Representations from the District Advancement Association - Orders passed.

Development Department
G.O.No.1888 Ms., dated 24th November 1931.

Read the following:-

From the Secretary, District Advancement Association, dated the 18th February 1931.

O R D E R:-

In February 1931, the members of the District Advancement Association, South Kanara, submitted a memorandum setting forth the grievances of the agriculturists of the district in regard to the administration of the forests in the district. The memorandum concluded with a request for the formation of a committee of officials and non-officials to enquire into the alleged grievances. In his letter dated 18th February 1931, forwarding the memorandum, the Honorary Secretary of the Association drew attention to certain specific grievances. The grievances referred to in the memorandum are in all of a general nature and most of them recently came under the consideration of Government in connection with a detailed memorandum of forest grievances received from Mr. Hunt. The orders of Government on the several points raised in Mr. Hunt's memorandum are explained in the appended reference which has been sent by ... Conservator to Mr. Hunt. In view of the detailed enquiries so recently made the Government do not consider it necessary to appoint any committee as suggested in the memorandum of the Association. They have however again considered the

specific grievances referred to by the Secretary of the Association in his covering letter of 18th February, 1931 and are pleased to pass the following orders:-

1. Abolition of grazing fees.- The Government regret that they cannot agree to the abolition of grazing fees.

2. Exemption from the payment of charge for water.- The use of water from the reserved forests is allowed in all cases in which such a right has been admitted at forest settlement. In all other cases, the use or diversion of water from reserved forests for irrigation is permissible under a licence to be issued by the Collector. The licence provides for the payment of water cess at the rates prescribed by the rules framed under the Madras Irrigation Cess Act. If the request of the Association is for the abolition of this cess, it cannot be granted. If, however, any charge not in accordance with these orders has been imposed for the use of water from reserved forests, the fact may be brought to the notice of the Collector, the only authority now authorized to issue licences for the diversion of water from reserved forests. He will examine all cases where permits have been issued by the District Forest Officers with a view to the issue of fresh licences.

3. Restoration of the right of Kumri cultivation to Kudubis.- The Government do not see any justification for granting this request.

4. Permission to hunt in reserved forests after giving intimation to the foresters.- The Government are unable to grant the permission asked for.

specific grievances referred to by the Secretary of the Association in his covering letter of 18th February, 1932, and are pleased to pass the following orders:-

1. Abolition of grazing fees.- The Government regret that they cannot agree to the abolition of grazing fees.

2. Exemption from the payment of charge for water.- The use of water from the reserved forests is allowed in all cases in which such a right has been admitted at forest settlement. In all other cases, the use or diversion of water from reserved forests for irrigation is permissible under a licence to be issued by the Collector. The licence provides for the payment of water cess at the rates prescribed by the rules framed under the Madras Irrigation Cess Act. If the request of the Association is for the abolition of this cess, it cannot be granted. In reserved any charge not in accordance with these orders has been imposed for the use of water from reserved forests, the fact may be brought to the notice of the Collector, the only authority who is authorised to issue licences for the diversion of water from reserved forests. He will examine all cases where permits have been issued by the District Forest Officers with a view to the issue of fresh licences

Restoration of the right of Kumri cultivation to Kuruba.- The Government do not see any justification for granting this request.

Intimation to the foresters.- The Government are unable to grant the permission asked for.

5. (i) Grant of gun licences.- Licences will be granted by the District Magistrate in all deserving cases at his discretion.

(ii) Rewards for killing tigers.- The Government consider that the existing orders regarding the grant of rewards for the destruction of tigers are sufficient.

(By Order of the Governor in Council)

S.V. Ramamurti,
Secretary to Government

To

The Honorary Secretary, District Advancement Association, Mangalore, South Kanara (with enclosure).

Copy to the Chief Conservator, (with copy of the representations).

Revenue Department.

Public Department.

[illegible]

5. (1) Grant of Gun Licences.- Licences will be granted by the District Magistrate in all deserving cases at his discretion.

Rewards for killing tigers.- The Government consider that the existing orders regarding the grant of rewards for the destruction of tigers are sufficient.

(By Order of the Governor in Council)

S.V. Ramamurti.
Secretary to Government

To

The Honorary Secretary, District Advancement Association, Ramnad.

Copy to the Chief Conservator, (with copy of the representations)

" Revenue Department

Public Department

Appendix

Copy of letter from the Chief Conservator of Forests, Madras, Ref.No.9145/C2/29-6, dated 23rd June 1930.

Ref.- Your Memorandum of Forest grievances in the South Kanara District dated 28-9-1929 and copy of your letter to Government dated 9-1-1930 on the same subject.

.....

The Government have considered the matters contained in your Memorandum dated 28-9-1929 and in your letter dated 9-1-1930 and their orders on the several points are set forth below:--

1. Public health: Proximity of Forests.

A general permission may be granted to owners of houses which are not more than one furlong from the boundary of a Reserved Forest to cut and keep down any growth in that Reserved Forest which is within one furlong of such houses and to make use of the materials so cut for their own domestic and agricultural purposes subject to the condition that burning of the cut material is not allowed in the Reserved Forest and provided also that the forest department may claim for departmental disposal any timber tree that may be cut. This concession subject to the same conditions will be applicable to unreserves also. Orders to this effect have already been issued by this office so far as Reserved Forests are concerned.

(2) Facilities for cultivation. It is considered that no change in the existing practice in respect of removal of green baf manure from Reserved Forest is called for and that the existing concession in the matter of clearance of the other classes of undergrowth should continue without modification.

(3) Grazing. It is not considered that any action is required in respect of the grievances alleged.

(4) and (5) Loss of cattle and crops.

It is not considered that any further concessions are called for in respect of destruction of wild animals.

(6) and (7) Pressure on cultivation and water sources.

It is considered that there are no valid grievances in respect of forest administration under these subjects.

(8) Rights of way. A concession may be notified permitting people and public bodies to clear growth on foot paths and cart tracks admitted as rights of way to a width half a chain in the case of foot paths and one chain in the case of roads. Orders to this effect have already been issued.

(9) and (10) Lantana and Kumri cultivation.

There is no justification for the complaints in respect of these matters.

(11) Panchayat management. Steps are being taken to revive the old panchayats and to constitute new ones, (though it is likely that the attempts may not be very successful.)

(12) Paras 14 and 15 of your letter dated 9-1-1930.

The Government do not consider that any interference with the Chief Conservator's discretion in the matter is called for.

14 Dev. 4358
9-10-21.

Law Dept. III-8—2,000—22-12-30.

QUESTION.—No. 688 for the meeting of the Legislative Council to be held on the ३०-१०-193/.

SUBMITTED that two copies of this Question may be forwarded to the Development Department.

The Question has been admitted.

U.O. No. , *dated*

M.V.L.
9-10-21

To

The Dev Department.

(True Copy)

Superintendent

15

Dev. Dept.

To A.S.

Please see the Question in the C.F.

Representations made by the South Kanara Dt. Advancement Association are dealt with in the linked file. The file is to lie over until orders are passed on the memorials from the ryots of Coondapur and Karkal taluks, which are now under circulation to Hon'ble Members.

No representations have been received from the ryots of Sorabcad.

Representations made by the ryots of Byndoor and other villages in Coondapur taluk have been submitted to Hon'ble Members with a draft order for approval and orders are likely to issue shortly. This file may perhaps lie over for a fortnight

RR
13-11-31

SRR
13-11

12/11/31.

12-11-31

To A.S.

Orders on the representations made by the people at Byndoor

And other villages have received
in Fe. No. 15-63 dtd 27-10-31.
A draft answer is submitted for
approval. The file dealing with the
representations of the M. Bohra community Hon.
submitted Separately with a draft reply
is ~~kicked below. It has to be sent~~ which has to be sent
by 4th inst. to Rev & Pub. Sy acceptance of Government.

DA
30.10.31.

RL
29.10.31 S.

SL A

3/11

C2 : please see my corrections
in the answer.
A petition was presented
to me at Someswar. Please
see whether it is not in
the file. Probably the
representations in the
Someswar petition are
repetitions of those in
other petitions. I should
like to see this file
again with draft
revised answers, if a
need arises.
MVK
2-11-31.

(one A - 2 unsigned)

J.

J.A.S.

SL
3/11

Pleases See Hon'ble minute above.
No petition from the syots of Someshwar was (X)
received in the office. Only 3 petitions
were received, one from the syots
in the vicinity of reserved forests in
Karkal taluk, another from the syots
and Agriculturists of the villages of
Yedtare, Padavari, Byndoor etc., in

(X) This village is in Mangalore taluk
No petition registered in the
Secretariat is enclosed
DA
3.11.31.
(P)
M. 1-5 S
Someshwar is not in Karkal

RL
3-11-31.
H 1-7 S (T)
this, & subsequent is
re Someswar petitions
MVK
3-11-31.

17

(J) Coondapoor taluk and a third are from the St. Advancement Association. The first two were disposed of in Fin. Nos. 1561 Secy. dy 29-10-1931 and 1863 Secy. dy 29-10-31. The last one viz. the representation of the St. Advancement Association is dealt with in the linked file. As it is not possible to answer this question during the present sitting of the Council, it is for consideration whether this may be set until final order issue in the linked file. If however it is considered that the draft answer should issue now, the draft answer as amended by the may issue. If so the file may be resubmitted to him.

RR
3.11.31 S.

This may be done

(K) Yes; the draft answer to the question may be sent, after the order in the linked file is passed; in time to the S-C's office so that it may be answered in the Council on 26th proxy. MRV 5-11-31

Hon'ble Minister

SM
4/11/31

3/11/31
RR.
3-11-31.

C2. Please see my marginal remarks on dis to p-3 ante
MRV 5-11-31.

SM
5/11

To D.S.

Orders on the linked file referred at C above have since issued in Fin.

(3) & 18

Fo. No. 16.88 dev. dy 24-11-1931

A revised draft answer is submitted for approval.

RR
28/11/31

S SM

25

11/31

C2 MKV 30-11-31

DA.

7.a.m.

SO 25

Forest grievances in South Kanara.

11-15 a.m. 537. *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the representations made to him regarding forest grievances during his last visit to South Kanara have been considered by the Government;

(*b*) what action, if any, Government propose to take in regard to each of the matters dealt with in the representations made by the District Advancement Association and the people at Byndoor and at Someshwar?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Copies of the orders passed by Government on these representations received are appended.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"May I know whether the Special Malaria Officer who came to investigate the conditions in Puttur taluk reported to the Government that the proximity of the reserve forests was responsible for malaria in that area?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I am afraid that this question should be put to my hon. Colleague, the Minister who is in charge of Public Health."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"May I know whether in view of the recommendations of the Malaria Officer to the effect that malaria is due to the proximity of the reserve forests, the Government will consider the advisability of removing those forests?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I do not know whether the Malaria Officer made that recommendation at all."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"May I know whether the hon. the Law Member will kindly go into the recommendations of the Malaria Officer?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I shall consider the suggestion."

APPENDIX III.

[Vide answer to question No. 637 asked by Mr. A. B. Shetty at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 26th January 1932, page 26, supra.]

I

G.O. Ms. No. 1561, Development, dated 27th October 1931.

[Memorandum from the ryots in the vicinity of reserved forest in Karvar taluk.]

The Government have carefully considered the several requests of the memorialists and are pleased to pass the following orders:—

1. *Abolition of grazing fees.*—The Government are unable to comply with this request of the memorialists.

2. *Removal of forest boundaries to a distance of at least half a mile.*—The Government are unable to accept that proximity of reserves to cultivated fields within half a mile, as such, should justify disafforestation. But if specific instances are brought to notice and it can be shown prima facie that proximity causes hardship, enquiries will be instituted and redress given wherever necessary.

3. *Exemption from payment of charge for water.*—Free use of water from reserved forests is allowed in all cases in which such a right has been admitted at forest settlement. In all other cases, the use or diversion of water from reserved forests for irrigation is permissible under a licence to be issued by the Collector. The licence provides for the payment of water cess at the rates prescribed by the rules framed under the Madras Irrigation Cess Act. If the request of the memorialists is for the abolition of this cess, it cannot be granted. If, however, any charge not in accordance with these orders has been imposed for the use of water from reserved forests, the fact may be brought to the notice of the Collector who is now the only authority authorized to issue licence for diversion of water from reserved forests and who will examine all cases where permits have been issued before by the District Forest Officers with a view to the issue of fresh licence.

4. *Oppression by forest subordinates.*—The Government understand that the alleged practice does not exist.

5. *Hunting in reserved forests with the permission of local forest officers.*—The concession asked for cannot be granted.

6. *The grant of gun licences.*—The petitioners are informed that licences will be granted by the District Magistrate in deserving cases at his discretion.

(By order of the Governor in Council)

S. V. RAMAMURTI,
Secretary to Government.

II

G.O. Ms. No. 1563, Development, dated 27th October 1931.

[Memorial from the ryots of certain villages in Coondapoor taluk No. nil, dated 16th February 1931.]

The Government have carefully considered the several requests of the memorialists and are pleased to pass the following orders:—

1. *Removal of the boundaries of Forest Reserves to a distance of at least one mile from human habitation and fields.*—The Government are unable to accept that proximity of reserves to human habitations and cultivated fields within one mile, as such, should justify disafforestation. But, if specific instances are brought to notice and it can be shown prima facie that proximity of any particular reserve causes hardship, enquiries will be instituted and redress given where necessary.

2. *Permission for periodical hunt of wild beasts in reserves in order to minimize the ravages of wild animals on cattle and crops.*—At present the people are allowed to hunt certain species of wild animals during July to January, subject to the condition that the previous permission of the Collector or the Revenue Divisional Officer is obtained and that an officer of the Forest department is present at the time of the hunt. The Government do not consider that any further concession is necessary.

3. *Right of clearing forests for a radius of one mile from each house with a view to preventing malaria.*—The Government have already accorded general permission to the owners of all houses within one furlong from the boundaries of reserved forests to cut and remove forest growth within a radius of one furlong from their houses. No further concession can be granted.

4. *Abolition of grazing fees, coupe contracts and permission to graze cattle in reserves and coupes.*—The Government are unable to comply with these requests of the memorialists.

5. *Permission to utilize freely all forest products, such as, green leaves, grass and small timber required for such various operations, as cultivation, raising of cattle, building of houses, etc.*—The Government consider that the concessions already granted are sufficient to meet the legitimate demands of the people. No further concessions can be granted.

6. *Permission for 'Kudhis' to clear the undergrowth, and raise such crops as ragi, tow and vegetables, as before, in the 'Kumris' on the lower zone of the Western Ghauts.*—The Government do not see any justification for granting this request of the memorialists.

7. *Abolition of the charge for water taken from the reserves for purposes of cultivation.*—Free use of water from reserved forests is allowed in all cases in which such a right has been admitted at forest settlement. In all other cases, the use or diversion of water from reserved forests for irrigation is permissible under a licence to be issued by the Collector. This licence provides for the payment of water cess at the rates prescribed by the rules framed under the Madras Irrigation Cess Act, on the extent irrigated. The request of the memorialists that this water charge should be abolished cannot be complied with.

The memorialists state that at the time of settlement the lands irrigated with water from reserved forests were classified as 'Nanja' and assessed as such and that later, the Forest Department have levied a charge for water on the same lands ignoring the fact that they had already been classified as wet lands and assessed as such. The Government are not aware of any cases in which such "double charges" have been levied. As, however, in future licences for the diversion of water from reserved forests are to be issued only by the Collector, he will examine all cases in which licences have been issued by the District Forest Officers in the past and issue fresh licences, if necessary, each case being considered on its merits. If any case of double charge comes to the notice of the Collector, he will no doubt cancel the existing permit and issue a licence for diversion of water free of any extra charge.

8. *Reorganization of the existing forest panchayats.*—The question is under the consideration of the Government

(By order of the Governor in Council)

S. V. Ramamurti,
Secretary to Government.

III

G.O. Ms. No. 1688, Development, dated 28th November 1931.

[Representations from the Secretary, District Advancement Association, dated the 18th February 1931.]

In February 1931, the members of the District Advancement Association, South Kanara, submitted a memorandum setting forth the grievances of the agriculturists of the district in regard to the administration of the forests in the district. The memorandum concluded with a request for the formation of a committee of officials and non-officials to enquire into the alleged grievances. In his letter dated 18th February 1931, forwarding the memorandum, the Honorary Secretary of the Association drew attention to certain specific grievances. The grievances referred to in the memorandum are all of a general nature and most of them recently came under the consideration of Government in connexion with a detailed memorandum of forest grievances received from Mr. Karant. The orders of Government on the several points raised in Mr. Karant's memorandum are explained in the appended reference which has been sent by the Chief Conservator to Mr. Karant. In view of the detailed enquiry so recently made, the Government do not consider it necessary to appoint any committee as suggested in the memorandum of the Association. They

have, however, again considered the specific grievances referred to by the Secretary of the Association in his covering letter of 18th February 1931, and are pleased to pass the following orders:—

1. *Abolition of grazing fees.*—The Government regret that they cannot agree to the abolition of grazing fees.

2. *Exemption from the payment of charge for water.*—The use of water from the reserved forests is allowed in all cases in which such a right has been admitted at forest settlement. In all other cases, the use or diversion of water from reserved forests for irrigation is permissible under a licence to be issued by the Collector. The licence provides for the payment of water cess at the rates prescribed by the rules framed under the Madras Irrigation Cess Act. If the request of the Association is for the abolition of this cess, it cannot be granted. If, however, any charge not in accordance with these orders has been imposed for the use of water from reserved forests, the fact may be brought to the notice of the Collector, the only authority now authorized to issue licences for the diversion of water from reserved forests. He will examine all cases where permits have been issued by the District Forest Officers with a view to the issue of fresh licences.

3. *Restoration of the right of Kumri cultivation to Kudubis.*—The Government do not see any justification for granting this request.

4. *Permission to hunt in reserved forests after giving intimation to the foresters.*—The Government are unable to grant the permission asked for.

5. (i) *Grant of gun licences.*—Licences will be granted by the District Magistrate in all deserving cases at his discretion.

(ii) *Rewards for killing tigers.*—The Government consider that the existing orders regarding the grant of rewards for the destruction of tigers are sufficient.

(By order of the Governor in Council)

S. V. RAMAMURTI,
Secretary to Government.

APPENDIX.

Copy of letter from the Chief Conservator of Forests, Madras, Reference No. 9145/C-2/29-6, *dated 23rd June* 1930.

[Reference.—Your Memorandum of Forest grievances in the South Kanara district, dated 28th September 1929, and copy of your letter to Government, dated 9th January 1930, on the same subject.]

The Government have considered the matters contained in your Memorandum, dated 28th September 1929, and in your letter, dated 9th January 1930, and their orders on the several points are set forth below:—

1. *Public health : Proximity of Forests.*—A general permission may be granted to owners of houses which are not more than one furlong from the boundary of a reserved forest to cut and keep down any growth in that reserved forest which is within one furlong of such houses and to make use of the materials so cut for their own domestic and agricultural purposes subject to the condition that burning of the cut material is not allowed in the reserved forest and provided also that the Forest Department may claim for department disposal any timber tree that may be cut. This concession subject to the same conditions will be applicable to unreserves also. Orders to this effect have already been issued by this office so far as Reserved Forests are concerned.

2. *Facilities for cultivation.*—It is considered that no change in the existing practice in respect of removal of green leaf manure from reserved forest is called for and that the existing concession in the matter of clearance of the other classes of undergrowth should continue without modification.

3. *Grazing.*—It is not considered that any action is required in respect of the grievances alleged.

4 and 5. *Loss of cattle and crops.*—It is not considered that any further concessions are called for in respect of destruction of wild animals.

6 and 7. *Pressure on cultivation and water sources.*—It is considered that there are no valid grievances in respect of forest administration under these subjects.

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8. *Rights of way.*—A concession may be notified permitting people and public bodies to clear growth on footpaths and cart-tracks admitted as rights of way to a width half a chain in the case of foot-paths and one chain in the case of roads. Orders to this effect have already been issued.

9 and 10. *Lantana and Kumri cultivation.*—There is no justification for the complaints in respect of these matters.

11. *Panchayat management.*—Steps are being taken the old panchayats and to constitute new ones (though it is likely that the attempts may not be very successful).

12. *Paragraphs* 14 *and* 15 *of your letter, dated* 9*th January* 1930.—The Government do not consider that any interference with the Chief Conservator's discretion in the matter is called for.

To A.S.

Please see extracts of the Council proceedings above 'A' on p. 5 ante.

The Special officers report referred to therein will be found at pages 3-33 of Fo. No. 1015 P. H 15-4-29

The Special officer has recommended that the Govt. should arrange for and encourage and stimulate the clearance of forest areas, at least for a distance of 2 furlongs from human habitations. 'A' on p. 32 ante (W.)

Though the Govt. have not accepted that the spread of malaria in South Kanara is due to the existence of forests, they have decided to accorded a general permission to owners of houses which are not more than one furlong from the boundary of a reserved forest to cut and keep down any growth in the reserved forest which is within (R) forming the order on p. 17 of Fo. 38 dtd 7-1-29

(J) Forest on p. 16 of Fo. 1188 dtd

~~to~~ 22

are furlong of such shares.

RR
9.132 S.

3/11/3

3/3/32

9/3

10.3.32.

Yo A.S.

These papers may now be
Gones. 363 of 11.3.32
Recorded.

RR
11.3.32

10/3/32

Legislative Council Question

Forest - finances - South
Kanara Dt - representation
of Hindu Advancement Assn
etc - ~~papers~~ action
taken - papers recorded

L C 68